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EIC-41-32

ECONOMIC INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting Held in
Room 1514, Temporary "M" Building
26th and Constitution Avenue, N. W.

14 January 1954

PRESENT

25X1A9a Dr. Otto E. Guthe, CIA, Chairman
[REDACTED], Jr., CIA, Vice Chairman
Col. William C. Baird, Air Force
Mr. H. S. Bennett, Navy
25X1A9a [REDACTED], CIA, Transportation Subcommittee
Mr. Earl Cox, Army, Transportation Subcommittee
Mr. Bennett Davis, Navy
Mr. Edward Doherty, State
Mr. John Easton, JCS
25X1A9a [REDACTED], CIA, Petroleum Subcommittee
Mr. Robert Hirshberg, FOA
Mr. J. Duncan Holmes, Army
25X1A9a [REDACTED], CIA
Dr. Norris Kenny, OSD
25X1A9a [REDACTED], CIA, Petroleum Subcommittee
Mr. Fred Rossiter, Agriculture
Lt. Col. George Russell, Army
Mr. Emil Schnellbacher, Commerce
Mr. Howard Wiedemann, State
Mr. Baxter Wood, Army, Petroleum Subcommittee
25X1A9a [REDACTED], CIA, Executive Secretary

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Action: The minutes of the Economic Intelligence Committee meeting of 5 November 1953 (EIC-41-31) were approved.

DISCUSSION OF SELECTED PROJECTS IN THE SEMI-ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

2. Discussion: Dr. Guthe gave a statistical run down of EIC projects and activities for the past six months. Under continuing Special EIC Activities the following comments were noted:

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(b) Review of JIC Transport Study 635/1 - Mr. Cox reported on the progress of the working group against a target date of 30 January, for preparing a statement of agreed and disagreed points, for both EIC and ONE purposes. He emphasized their hope of narrowing the range of disagreements. He was asked to have his subcommittee members keep the respective EIC members posted on the progress of the draft report - so that EIC clearance of the final document would be as expeditious as possible. Dr. Guthe pointed out that after the needs of NIE-88 have been met EIC will then decide what additional steps, of its own, may be appropriate for resolving any remaining differences.

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(e) Subcommittee Review of Substantive Papers - Discussion: EIC members reemphasized the importance of a freer "exchange of views", within each subcommittee as to substantive conclusions of each other's more important research studies. The hope was expressed that such regular exchanges would broaden the professional understanding of the representatives on the various technical subcommittees (although it was recognized that agencies might not have professional specialists as their representatives on all subcommittees).

Action: It was agreed that copies of this minute would be circulated to all subcommittees, and that each EIC member would encourage his own subcommittee representatives to participate more freely in such exchanges of views.

PRIORITY DEFICIENCIES OF RESEARCH ON SOVIET BLOC RAILROAD TRANSPORTATION
EIC-S-1/9(b)

3. Discussion: The recommendation on page 1, column 5 was reworded to make it clear that the continuing CIA responsibility approved was for completion of the particular rail line studies listed in the second column. The committee strongly urged CIA to increase the priority of these line studies so that they might be completed at a considerably earlier date than indicated. The Secretariat reported that this survey had been particularly singled out for commendation by the various EIC members. Dr. Guthe expressed the appreciation of the entire committee to the Chairman and Secretary of the Transportation Subcommittee.

4. Action: The survey was approved, with acceptance by the various agencies of the responsibilities indicated for filling the listed priority gaps.

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PRIORITY DEFICIENCIES OF RESEARCH ON SOVIET BLOC PETROLEUM EIC-S-1/4

5. Discussion: A modification of wording was made on page 7, item 3, column 5 as proposed by Air Force to clarify the extent of its photographic intelligence facilities. Several questions were raised about the need for expanded collection efforts on several particular gaps before the research outlined could be really adequately supported. The members were reminded that each subcommittee is also to undertake a companion survey presenting priority collection deficiencies in some detail. (A preliminary survey of the Armaments field, which particularly focuses on collection deficiencies, is expected to be on the next EIC agenda.)

6. Action: The survey was approved, with acceptance by the various agencies of the responsibilities indicated for filling the listed priority gaps.

PRIORITY DEFICIENCIES OF RESEARCH ON SOVIET BLOC CHEMICALS EIC-S-1/2

7. Discussion: A number of changes in the draft survey were proposed including:

(a) Four changes had been received from Air Force to clarify the extent of their present research (under column 4).

(b) ONI did not feel that its present capabilities and interests warranted the recommendations under column 5 (pages 7 and 8) as to Hydrogen Peroxide and Hydrazine. They proposed to agree with the Secretariat after the meeting on a rewording.

(c) G-2 pointed out that they had received this draft only forty-eight hours before the meeting and had not had time to adequately coordinate within the Department of the Army as to precisely what studies they were presently undertaking and what responsibilities they might be in position to assume, under the various items.

(d) The Secretariat explained to Dr. Kenny, Office of the Secretary of Defense, the reasons why purified cellulose, rubber and ammonia had not been included by the Chemical Subcommittee as "priority gaps" in the survey.

8. Action: The EIC agreed that revision be undertaken on an interim action basis, particularly with regard to a revised statement of present and prospective research by G-2 and ONI (in columns 4 and 5).

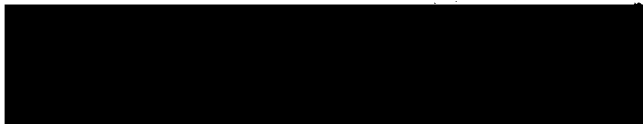
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ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEW MEMBERS

9. Action: The list of new nominations to various EIC subcommittees was noted. (Formal EIC approval is considered appropriate only for nominations of EIC subcommittee chairmen.)

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Executive Secretary
Economic Intelligence Committee

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